

A LETTER
FROM
THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE

Ferdinando Lord Fairfax, Sir Hugh

Cholmley, Sir Philip Stapleton, Sir Henry

Cholmley, Committees of the Com-

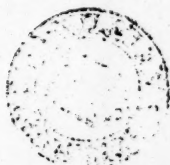
mons House of Parliament, resi-
dmg at Yorke.

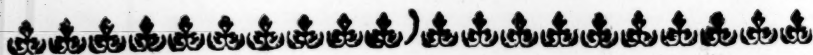
Together with a Relation of all the passages
at the great meeting at Yorke, on Thursday the
12 of this instant May.

With the Free-holders Protestation inclosed in
the Letter from the said Committee to Mr.
Speaker, and ordered by the said House
to be forthwith published in
Print.

H. Elsing, Cler. Parl de Com.

London, Printed for Iohn Wright. 1642.





S I R,

IN our last Letter we gave you an account of our first and second waiting on the Kings, we writ to you then, that his Majesty commanded us to attend him yesterday being Thursday, to hear what he said to the Gentlemen, who a little before the meeting, he seconded by a particular Message. Being come thither, his Majesty caused the severall Messages betwene him, and the Parliament, mentioned in this inclosed Printed Paper to be read.

This was done with much humming and applause of the Kings Messages by some persons who had placed themselves neere about where the King stood, But when any thing from the Parliament came to be read, with so much hissing, and reviling the Parliament, that though in respect, and duty to the Kings Person, we could not resist it, as other wise we should have done, yet have since expostulated, and complained of it to his Majesty. Some were so bold as to say openly, that the Parliament men should set their Houses in Order, for many of them should shortly have their heads off; one of which (as since we are credibly informed) was one *Hurst*, a servant to one Master *William Crofts*. In this which was said by the King, you will see what reason we had to vindicate our selves, and therefore we immediately repayed to the Deanes house with all the other Gentlemen, and there we tooke notice of the rough usage we had received; we told them that it was neither indiscretion nor disobedience in us (as his Majesty was pleased to call it) to deliver the Parliaments Message, or to stay here though commanded to the contrary, since we conceived no man needed to be satisfied in so cleare a case as this; that every Member of each House ought to obey their commands, when they were pleased to imploy them. But since his Majesty thought fit to bid them take heed of us, not knowing what doctrine of disobedience we might preach to them under colour of obeying the Parliament, we appealed to every man, whether we had in word or deed, in publicke or in private, done any thing that became not honest men, and persons employed from the Parliament. That we had communicated our instructions to his Majesty, being that we would avow all our actions, and that we were confident it would not be said, we had transgressed them. This was very well taken and justified by the Country. Yesterday there came divers thousands of Free-holders to this City, though none but the Gentry were summoned, but receiving a command from the King not to come to Court they forbore, and stayed in the Castle yard, yet sent this Petition enclosed to his Majesty, and received the Answer annexed therunto. There was likewise a Committee of twelve Gentlemen appoynted yesternight to consider of drawing up an Answer to the Kings proposition concerning a Guard, but nothing could be done, because it was past a clock before the Gentlemen were admitted to the King. This morning the Free-holders assembled againe in the Castle yard, and there they made this Protestation enclosed, of their right of voting in what concerneth the peace of the Country, as having their interest therein.

When

When we all met this morning againe at the Deanes house, we who are your Committees received this Message by Sir *Edward Stanhop*, that he came from his Majesty to command us, that we should depart from this meeting, and if we did stay, his Majesty would iudge us guilty of that he spake on yesterday, which was tampering. Notwithstanding which command, we read, the fourth Article of our instructions to the whole company, that being pertinent to the businesse we were then upon, and desired them to consider, whether the Parli ment had not expressed therein such a care of the Kings safety, that there would be little need of Guards: we told them that we had a good right of being there as Freeholders of the County, but that in obedience to the King we would depart for this time: but whensoever there should be occasion of our being there in pursuance of our instructions and commands from the Parliament, we should be ready. The whole company received great satisfaction, and desired a Copy of that instruction which we gave them. We were the more willing at that time to goe from thence, because we should not onely give obedience to the Kings command, which otherwise he would have said, we constantly disobeyed, but because the Committee of twelve appoynted yesterday were then to withdraw, so that there was nothing for the present for us to doe; we immediately went to the King, and besought him that since we were continually so discountenanced by him, in the face of our County, that he would be pleased to let us know in particular where we had given the occasion, for we otherwise conceived we were deprived of that liberty, which was our due in respect of that interett we had here. His Majesty was pleased to tel us, that if we would lay aside that condition of Committees from the Parliament, he would not hinder us to be there as Gentlemen of the Countrey; Wee humbly replied, that we could not lay that down, nor could we be absent from any meeting where our presence was required, for the service as Committees from the Parliament: to which his Majesty said, that indeed he thought wee could not lay it downe, neither that it was reasonable wee should have Votes, and be in a double capacity. The Committee hath bene together most part of this day, but not agreeing: six of them have drawne up this Answer inclosed, which they have communicated to the Gentlemen and Freeholders. The greater part of the Gentlemen and all the Freeholders have agreed too, and subscribed it. The other six have concluded upon this other Answer, consenting to a Guard of Horse, but this we doe not heare, that they have gotten many names too: nor can we get a Copy of those names as yet, though there be very few, yet whether they can bring in any horse or no we cannot yet iudge. The King hath received both these resolutions, which with his Answer to them you shall likewise have inclosed. His Majesty had declared himselfe yesterday, that he would raise that Regiment which was Sir *Robert Siricklands* for his foot Guard, but he hath layd aside that resolution. The Freeholders of the County are newly summoned to attend his Majesty about a weeke hence the 3. Rydings upon 3. severall dayes, but for what service we doe not know.

Sir, you have here a large Narrative of the passages at this meeting, what dangers this poore Countrey lyes under, we humbly refer it to you to iudge not taking upon us to deliver any opinion. The businesse lasted so long, that it hindered us from giving a more speedy account. Sir, this is what at this time

(4)
Is sent from *Yorke*, May 13. 1642. Your assured friends and servants,
Fer, Fairfax. Hu. Cholmley. Philip St Ipleton. Hen. Cholmley.

HIS MAJESTIES SPEECH.

I have cause of adding, not altering, what I meant to say. When I gave out the Summons for this dayes appearance, I little thought of these Messengers, or of such a Message as they brought, the which (because it confirms me in what I intend to speake, and that I desire you should be truly informed of all passages betwene me and the Parliament) you shall here read. First, my Answer to the Declaration of both Houses concerning Hull; the Answer of the Parliament to my two Messages concerning Hull; together with my reply to the same; and my Message to both Houses, declaring the Reasons why I refused to passe the Bill concerning the Militia.

All which being read, his Majesty proceeded.

I will make no Paraphrases upon what you have heard, it more befitting a Lawyer then a King; onely this Observation, since Treason is countenanced neer so neer, it is time to take to my safety: I avow it was part of my wonder, that men (whom I thought heretofore, discreet and moderate) should have undertaken this Imploiment; and that since they came I having delivered them the Answer you have heard, and commanded them to return personally with it to the Parliament, should have so easily disobeyed Me, upon presence of the Parliaments Command. My end in telling you this, is to warne you of them; for since these men have brought Me such a Message and disobeyed so lawfull a command, I will not say what their intent of staying here is; onely I bid you take heed, not knowing what Doctrine of disobedience they may preach to you, under colour of obeying the Parliament.

Whereto I have found and kept you quiet, the enaying of which was a chiefe cause of My coming hither (Tumults and Disorders having made Me leave th; South) and yet make this the Seed of a War, as malice would (but I hope in vaine) make you beleve; now if disturbances doe come, I know whom I have reason to suspect.

To be short, you see that My Magazine is going to be taken away from Me (being my owne proper goods) directly against my will: the Militia (against Law and my consent) is going to be put in execution: and lastly, Sir John has Treason is countenanced: all this considered, none can blame me to apprehend dangers. Therefore I have thought fit upon these reasons; to tell you, that I am resolved to have a Guard (the Parliament having hitherto all this while upon my back) onely to secure my person, to which I desire your commendation and assistance, and that I may be able to protect you, the Lawes, and the true Protestant Profession from any Assault or injury that may be offered, which I meane to maintaine My selfe, without charge to the Country, intending no longer to keepe them on foot, then I shall be secured of my last apprehensions, by having satisfaction in the particulars before mentioned.

The

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The Answer to his Maiesties Propositions, of the Gentlemen and Free holders, which subscribed the same at the Deanes House where the Sheriffe was.

May it please your most sacred Maiesty.

THe Propositions delivered to us yester day from your Maiesty are of so high concernment to the weale and peace of the whole Kingdome and doth so nearely touch upon the affection and fidelitie of all your subjects in generall, as we being but a part of one Countie onely, doe not conceive it safe for us to advise therein, but rather humbly to beseech your Maiesty to impart the grounds of your Majesties feares and jelocies to your High Court of Parliament (of whose most loyall care and affection to your Majesties honour and safety, and the prosperity of your Subjects and dominions we are most confident) and whatsoever shall be advised by your great Councill therein we shall most willingly embrace and give our concurrence and assistance to it as shall become us. In whose fidelity and affection your Maiesty hath often declared especial trust; And albeit wee doe not presume to advise your Maiesty in that particular, being of transcendent consequence, nevertheless in the behalfe of those members of Parliament lately imployed to attend your Maiesty from both Houses, being all of them Gentlemen of qualite and estate in this Countie, & trusted to serve in that most Honourable assemblie; Wee humble crave your Majesties leave to expresse our Confidence in their unstained Loyaltie and affection to your Maiesty to be such as your Maiesty may securelie admit their attendance to negotiate their imployments, untill they be recalled by the Parliament. And for their fidelity, wee doe all engage our selves to your Maiesty, and we are most assured that your Royall person shall be secure in the generall fidelitie of your Subjects of this Countie without any extraordinarie guard.

His Maiesties Answer to this, returned by the Sheriffe.

His Maiesty expects the like affection from you, that he doth from the other Gentlemen, and that he hath the same confidence in you, that hee hath in the others.

The Names of those Gentlemen which were taken by the Sheriffes.

<i>Sir Thomas Fairstax</i>	<i>Sir Thomas Norcliffe</i>	<i>Sir William Lysser</i>
<i>Sir William Constable</i>	<i>Sir Arthur Ingram</i>	<i>Sir Thomas Kensington</i>
<i>Sir Matthew Bygton</i>	<i>Sir Richard Darley.</i>	<i>Master Thomas Topson</i>
<i>Sir Thomas Gower.</i>	<i>Sir Iacobs Cutler.</i>	<i>Henry St. Quintin</i>
<i>Sir William S. Quintin</i>	<i>Sir William Fairstax</i>	<i>Arthur Noel</i>
<i>Sir Edward Roder.</i>	<i>Sir Hugh Bethell</i>	<i>Tobias Jenkins.</i>
<i>Sir William Crawley.</i>	<i>Sir Iohn Savill</i>	<i>Henry Jenkins</i>
<i>John Ferrer</i>	<i>Henry Atkinson</i>	<i>William Bethel</i>
<i>Iohn Wiff</i>	<i>Henry Wikes</i>	<i>George Moncaine</i>

Thomas Stockdale
William Gower
Richard Trenman
Sackvill Pope
Thomas Heblethwaite
George Emer
George Marwood
John Savile of Medec
John Salimarsb
William Copley
Lyonell Copley
Cuthbert Creak
William Cob
Dyley Gower.
Thomas Rookeby
John Cakverley
Francis Grimston

John Anlabie
Arthur Backmish
Christopher Waters
Matthew Beckwith
Christopher Copley
Thomas Croft
William Parker
George Trotter.
Henry Westbie
William Tomings
Thomas Bradford
Richard Wilbore
Job Hackwood
Mathew Allured
Robert Sheppard
John Acklam
John Stillington

Lewiss Hamond
John Cholmeley
Thomas Newmarke
Henry Savile
Lancelot Allured
John Lambert
Francis Grimston
M. Stephen Quintin
Villoughby Godfrey
John Stillington
John Beverley
Mr. Bainton
George Westbie
Benjamin Browne
Charles Fairfax
Henry Arthington
Henry Tempest

These are the names subscribed in one sheet, there being many other sheetes filed together, all of them subscribed, and amongst them many Gentlemen of note, but I tooke note onely of the first sheet, having no more time.

To the Kings most Excellent Maiesty.

WEe Knights and Gentlemen whose names are subscribed doe unanimously present this our answer to your Maiesties propositions concerning the raising of a Guard of Horse for the security and defence of your sacred person.

To which proposition we, as wee conceive our selves bound by Allegiance doe willingly concur. For that purpose humbly desiring that the aforesaid may be raised by legall Authority: and likewise that it may consist of persons unquestionable in their Religion and Gentlemen.

The substance of his Maiesties Answer

His Maiesty gave them thanks, for it appeared as a satisfactory Answer, and in it they had shewed great circumspection and wisdom, by choosing such, whose loyalty could not be questioned, by excluding Recusants, and all suspected to be disaffected.

To the Kings most Excellent Maiesty.

The humble Petition of many Thousands of Your Maies
ties peaceable affected Subjects of the County of Yorke.

Humbly sheweth,

That many of your Petitioners being in their late desires petitioning your Majesty, denyed access, kept back with violence, and receiving great affronts from some that have dependan

cy on your Maiesty and others there assembled, yet no provocation could remove them from their patience, and dutie, which proceedings are taken more to heart, your Petitioners conceiving it undeniable that they have an Interest in the Common-wealth, and are as dutifull, and loyall Subjects to your Majesty as whomsoever though divers of them have beene since uncivilly prest by some in your Majesties name to subscribe a paper stiled the humble Answer to your Majesties propositions, and threatned thereto, upon which blowes followed and that when your Majesties Army should be on foot those should be first pillaged that refused such subscription, which we humbly conceive are positively contrary to your Majesties owne expressions, and is to the high dishonour of your Majesty, and the great affrightment, and disturbance of your Majesties leige people. Therefore your Petitioners haveing too iust cause to feare your Majesties royall heart is still endangered to be possessed with some distaste of your Petitioners humbly supplicate your Majesty, to couceive better things of them and to cast your eye upon the present state of this your Kingdome, that as your Majesty hath often declared your affection to this County, so now your love might now be expressed in preserving the peace thereof, and that your Majesty would admit of a right information of the cleare intentions of your Petitioners who are confident that we so absolute, and hartly observance to your Majesties iust Comands can be demonstrated as what your Majesty in Parliament shall declare, which if it become divided (as God forbid) our hearts even tremble to consider the dangers and diminution of the honour, and safety of your Majesties posterity, and Kingdoms will unvoydable be put upon since it is cleare to every understanding, that it is not adevided part of one, or severall Counties that can afford thrt honour, and safety to your Majesty as the whole Kingdome, which you may command, no ground or feare of danger remaining, if a good Confidence were begot betwixt your Majesty and Parliament, whose grave, and loyall Counsellors are as we humbly conceive the visible way under God to put a speedy end to the troubles of Ireland, and establish your Throne in right courses. And lastly your Petitioners do most humbly supplicate that we may represent our unsittnes to become Judges betwixt your Majesty and Parliament in any thing, or dispute the Authority of either which they humble conceive doe fortifie each other it being most unfit for them to act any thing therein but by their prayers for right understanding betwene your Majesty and them which we shall heartily do as also for your Majesties long and prosperous Reigne, and as we are bound by our late Protestation shall be ready to maintaine your Majesties iust rights, the Privi-

redges & power of Parliament & the lawfull liberties of the subjects,
The Kings Answer to the Petition of the Country at the Court
at Yorke, May. 13. 1642.

His Majesty

HAVING with some care considered this Petition, being the first of this nature that hath beene presented to him wherein any appearing well affected to his service (though he hath heard of many in the Contrary) have misdeemed themselves, hath commanded me to give you this answer.

That he doth totally discover proceedings complained of in the Petition, & expects that you & all other his loyall subjects shall rest satisfied with his several Gracious Declarations & constant peaceable practice towards his people to the contrary, and for further assurance upon just proote made against any man who hath committed any violence in words or actions (without just provocation) full reparation shalbe given to the parties injured. As for the rest of this Petition, his Majestie saith that it is so confused that he doth not well know what positive Answer to give it. And the rather because it is grounded upon misinformation, both of his Majesties proceedings and intentions, as in particular his Majestie saith he never intended to have you to be judges betwixt him and his Parliament. And for the other part of this Petition he referres to his Messages, Declarations, and Answers, whereby it will clearely appeare, that his desire and intention is onely the preserving of the true Protestant profession, the Lawes of the Land, the liberty of his people, the peace of the Kingdomes, and the peace of this County in particular.

The Protestation of Freeholders. May 13. 1642:

VVHEREAS his Majestie hath been pleased to give Summons to the Gentry of this County to attend him at his Court at York the 12 of May instant, to advise with him in some particulars, concerning the honour, and safety of his Majesties Person, and the well being and peace of this our County, and in the said summons was pleased to omit the Freeholders of this County, out of a tender respect of putting them to any extraordinary charge, yet we conscious of our sincere loyalty to his Majesty our Gracious Sovereigne, and conceiving our selves according to the propositions of our estates, equally interested in the common good of the County, did take boldnesse to come in person to York and were ready to attend his Majesties pleasure there. And whereas his Majestie was pleased then to propound severall things to the purpose aforesaid, at the meeting of the Countrey, to consider a fit answer to returne to his Majesty thereupon, the doores of the meeting house were shut against us, we utterly excluded, and in our absence a refer of Knights & Gentlemen chosen without our knowledge or consent to draw up the said answer. We the Freeholders who petitioned his Majesty the day abovesaid, conceiving our selves abundantly injured in the election (not knowing any warrant by writ or otherwise for the same) of the said Referree, and that we ought not howsoever to be concluded by any resolution of theirs without our assent in their election; doe absolutely protest and declare against the said election: and as farre as concerns us disavow whatsoever shall be the result of their consultation thereupon, and doe desire: a new and faire election of a Referree may be made, we submitted to our free Votes in the same, and some one or more to be nominated by us allowed to deliver our sense for us at another meeting: And that we shall not make good in the least respect any thing whatsoever which shall otherwise be concluded upon.

FINIS.